

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1        1.    A flow restrictor for a medical aspiration system,  
2 comprising:

3        a filter housing;

4        a flow restrictor coupled to said filter housing; and,

5        a filter located within said filter housing.

1        2.    The flow restrictor of claim 1, wherein said flow  
2 restrictor has a diameter between 0.1 to 1 millimeters.

1        3.    The flow restrictor of claim 1, wherein said flow  
2 restrictor is located within an output luer attached to  
3 said filter housing.

1        4.    The flow restrictor of claim 3, wherein said output  
2 luer includes a scaling insert.

1        5.    An aspiration tube assembly for a medical system,  
2 comprising:  
3        an input tube;

4 an input luer coupled to said input tube, said input  
5 luer having a diameter;  
6 a filter housing coupled to said input luer;  
7 a filter located within said filter housing, said  
8 filter having a diameter that is no greater than twice the  
9 diameter of said input luer; and,  
10 a flow restrictor coupled to said filter housing.

1 6. The aspiration tube assembly of claim 5, wherein  
2 said input luer is pressed into said filter.

1 7. The aspiration tube assembly of claim 5, wherein  
2 said filter is pressed into said filter housing.

1 8. The aspiration tube assembly of claim 5, wherein  
2 said flow restrictor has a diameter between 0.1 to 1  
3 millimeters.

1 9. The aspiration tube assembly of claim 5, wherein  
2 said flow restrictor is located within an output luer  
3 attached to said filter housing.

1 10. The aspiration tube assembly of claim 9, wherein  
2 said output luer includes a scaling insert.

1 11. An aspiration tube assembly for a medical system,  
2 comprising:

3 an input tube;

4 an input luer coupled to said input tube;

5 a filter housing coupled to said input luer;

6 a filter located within said filter housing and pressed  
7 into said input luer; and,

8 a flow restrictor coupled to said filter housing.

1 12. The aspiration tube assembly of claim 11, wherein  
2 said filter is pressed into said filter housing.

1 13. The aspiration tube assembly of claim 11, wherein  
2 said flow restrictor has a diameter between 0.1 to 1  
3 millimeters.

1 14. The aspiration tube assembly of claim 11, wherein  
2 said flow restrictor is located within an output luer  
3 attached to said filter housing.

1        15. The aspiration tube assembly of claim 14, wherein  
2 said output luer includes a scaling insert.

1        16. A flow restrictor for a medical aspiration system,  
2 comprising:

3        a filter housing;

4        filter means for filtering a flow of fluid through said  
5 filter housing; and,

6        flow restrictor means for restricting the flow of fluid  
7 through said filter housing.

1        17. The flow restrictor of claim 16, wherein said flow  
2 restrictor means includes a flow restrictor with a diameter  
3 between 0.1 to 1 millimeters.

1        18. The flow restrictor of claim 16, wherein said flow  
2 restrictor means includes an output luer attached to said  
3 filter housing.

1        19. The flow restrictor of claim 18, wherein said  
2 output luer includes a scaling insert.

1        20. An aspiration tube assembly for a medical system,  
2 comprising:  
3        an input tube;  
4        a filter housing coupled to said input tube;  
5        filter means for filtering a flow of fluid through said  
6 filter housing;  
7        input means for coupling said input tube to said filter  
8 means; and  
9        flow restrictor means for restricting the flow of fluid  
10 through said filter housing.

1        21. The aspiration tube assembly of claim 20, wherein  
2 said input means includes an input luer that is pressed  
3 into said filter means.

1        22. The aspiration tube assembly of claim 20, wherein  
2 said filter means includes a filter that is pressed into  
3 said filter housing.

1        23. The aspiration tube assembly of claim 20, wherein  
2 said flow restrictor means includes a flow restrictor that  
3 has a diameter between 0.1 to 1 millimeters.

1        24. The aspiration tube assembly of claim 20, wherein  
2        said flow restrictor means includes an output luer attached  
3        to said filter housing.

1        25. The aspiration tube assembly of claim 24, wherein  
2        said output luer includes a scaling insert.

1        26. A method for aspirating a cornea, comprising:  
2        inducing a flow of fluid out of the cornea;  
3        filtering the fluid; and,  
4        restricting the flow of filtered fluid.

1        27. The method of claim 26, further comprising  
2        attaching a filter and a flow restrictor to an input tube  
3        and an output tube.

1        28. The method of claim 27, further comprising  
2        detaching the filter and the flow restrictor from the input  
3        tube and the output tube.